Groundwater Level Monitoring July 2018



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August 17, 2018

GROUNDWATER CONDITIONS SUMMARY

According to the Northeast Regional Climate Center at Cornell University (NRCC), New Hampshire received an average of 4.76 inches of rain during the month of July, which is 0.38 inches above normal based on the 1981-2010 precipitation records. That represents 109% of normal precipitation for the month (NRCC). The state is currently free from drought conditions, yet 47.9% of the state is abnormally dry according to the latest data from National Drought Mitigation Center (NDMC).

The New Hampshire Geological Survey's groundwater monitoring network (Figure 1) includes 11 bedrock (Figure 2) and 19 overburden (Figure 3) observation wells, all of which are measured monthly by hand. Using the monthly hand readings, monthly averages and percentile statistics were calculated and are graphically summarized in Figures 1 through 3 and in the following hydrographs. The hydrographs show the following data over a period of six months: (1) current groundwater depths, (2) the monthly average over the period of record (POR) of the well, and (3) color-coded statistical ranges over the POR of the well.

The data show that all of the bedrock wells in the network are within the normal to above normal range. The Rindge wells have consistently been in the normal to above normal range during the last six month period. The overburden wells, or wells that monitor the unconsolidated materials above bedrock, are indicating groundwater levels predominantly recovering into the normal range this month. A few wells (Concord CVW-04, Colebrook, New London, Newport and Ossipee) however, are lagging in the below normal or low conditions.

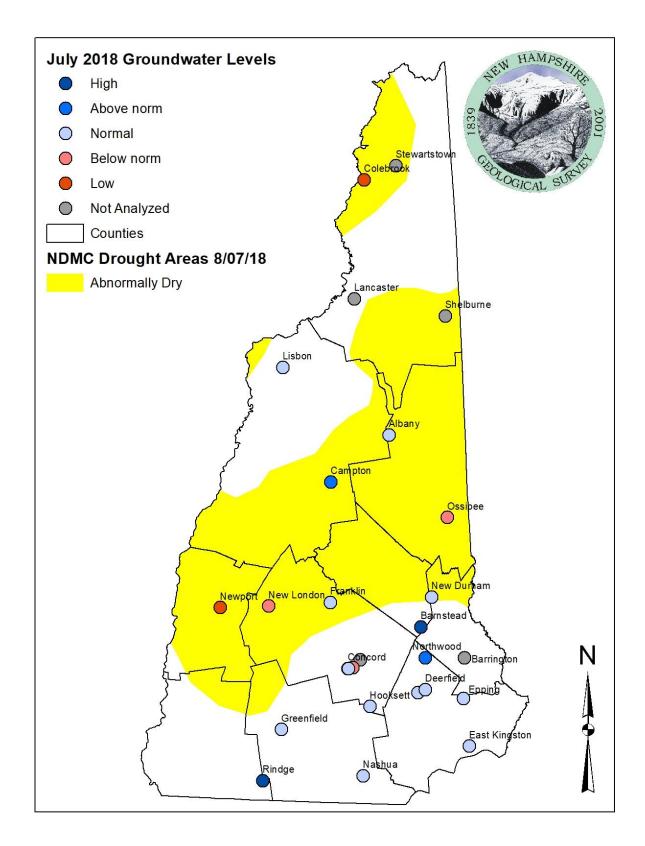


Figure 1. Groundwater Monitoring Network showing July 2018 groundwater levels with respect to drought areas defined by the National Drought Mitigation Center on August 7th.

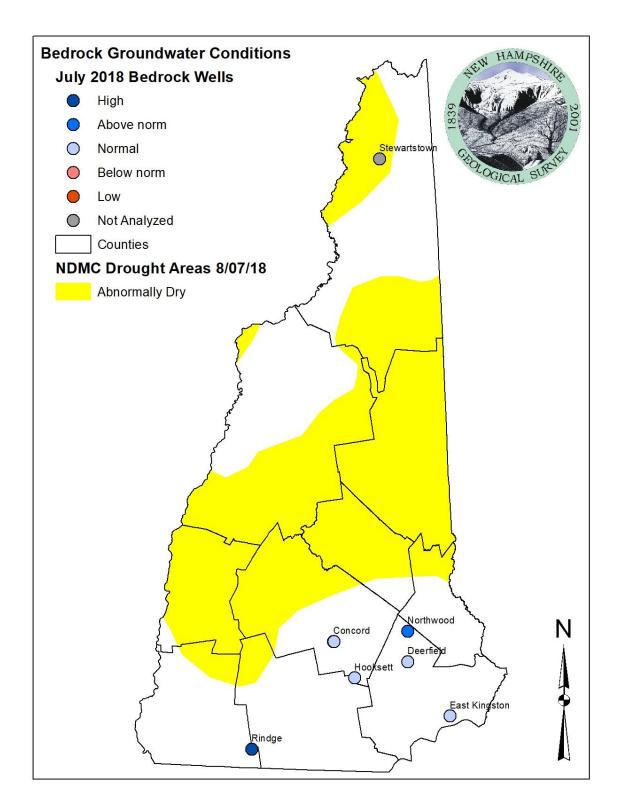


Figure 2. Bedrock wells showing July 2018 groundwater levels with respect to drought areas defined by the National Drought Mitigation Center on August 7th. Note: Points at Kingston, Concord, Stewartstown, and Rindge show coupled bedrock wells.

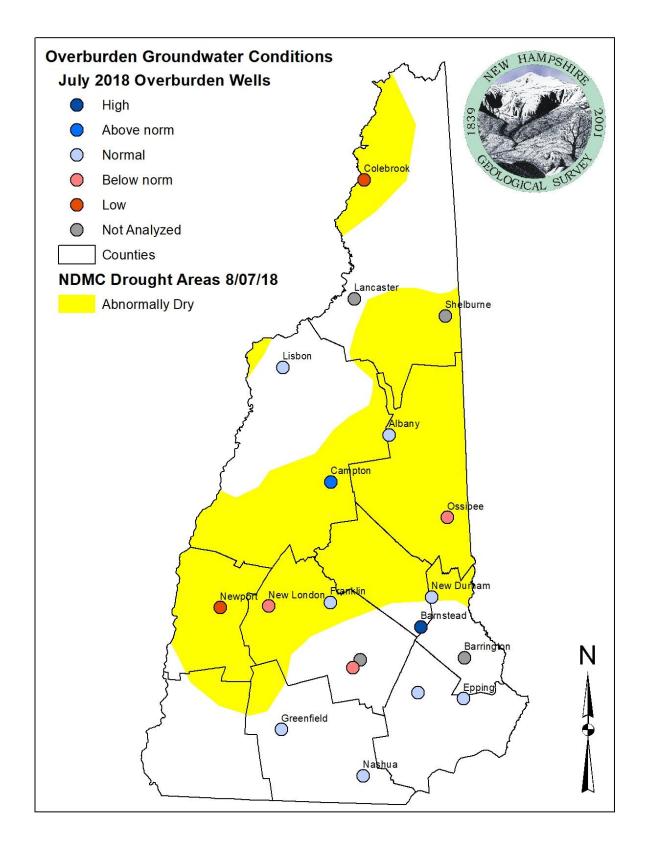


Figure 3. Overburden wells showing July 2018 groundwater levels with respect to drought areas defined by the National Drought Mitigation Center on August 7th. Note: Points at Newport and Albany represent a couplet.

OVERBURDEN WELL HYDROGRAPHS

